This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (currently amended)   A method of storing photographs comprising:

providing a data repository on a network accessible to a plurality of users who have digital photographs, wherein the digital photographs are comprised of data files in a suitable format;

receiving digital photographs from the users over the network;

storing the digital photographs in the data repository;

when storing each digital photograph in the data repository, associating each digital photograph with data that indicate a physical location;

providing a search function available to the users over the network that enables users to search by proximity to a [[physical location]] street address for digital photographs stored by other users, wherein the search function uses a geographic database to identify digital photographs in proximity to the specified [[location]] street address;

allowing users to select digital photographs stored by other users; and

transmitting copies of the selected digital photographs to the users who selected them over the network.

2.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicates an orientation.

3.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data restrict which other users may obtain a copy of the digital photograph.

4.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicate an owner of the digital photograph.

5.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicate a date on which the digital photograph was taken.

6.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicate a date on which the digital photograph was deposited in the data repository.

7.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data provide a description of the digital photograph.

8.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data include a focal length used for the digital photograph.

9.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the selected digital photographs transmitted to users, charging the users a fee for the selected digital photographs.

10.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

storing links to web cams in the data repository;

when storing each link to a web cam in the data repository, associating each link to a web cam with data that indicate a physical location, wherein the physical location indicates where the web cam associated with the link is located;

providing a search function available to the users over the network that enables users to search by physical location for web cam links stored by other users;

allowing users to select links to web cams of other users; and

transmitting the respective selected web cam links to the users who selected them over the network.

11.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 wherein the physical location associated with the digital photograph indicates a vantage point of the digital photograph.

12.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 wherein the physical location associated with the digital photograph indicates the location of an object in the digital photograph.

13.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 wherein the data that indicate a physical location is obtained, for at least some of the digital photographs, from positioning equipment associated with the camera that took the photograph.

14.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 wherein the data that indicate a physical location is obtained from the user from whom the associated digital photograph was received.

15.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

when receiving digital photographs from users, requesting each user to indicate the physical location to be associated with the digital photograph.

16.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

making the data repository accessible to a map developer; and

allowing the map developer to update maps using the digital photographs stored in the data repository.

17.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the copies of selected digital photographs transmitted to users over the network, providing the users with route guidance for traveling to the respective locations shown in the digital photographs.

18.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs received from users, allowing the users to associate a plurality of digital photographs as a related group.

19.   (currently amended)   The method of Claim 1 wherein the search function allows a user to specify a [[physical location]] street address by distance from a reference point.

20.   (currently amended)   The method of Claim 1 wherein the search function allows a user to specify a [[physical location]] street address by a bounding area.

21.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

establishing groups of users, wherein each group comprises a subset of all users; and

restricting exchange of digital photographs stored in the data repository by members of a group to only members of the group.

22.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 wherein the search function supports free text searches.

23.   (original)   The method of Claim 1 wherein the data repository automatically recognizes potential placenames when users enter text to be associated with digital photographs being stored.

Claims 24-27 (cancelled)

28.   (previously presented)   A method of enabling a user to take photographs of a place of interest comprising:

storing data in a computing system to indicate a user-selected subject matter category;

determining locations of the user as the user travels through a geographic region;

using a geographic database to compare locations of the user to locations where a photo can be taken of an object corresponding to the user-selected subject matter category; and

informing the user when the user is in proximity to one of the locations where a photo can be taken of an object corresponding to the user-selected subject matter category.

29.   (currently amended)   A method of storing photographs comprising:

providing a data repository on a network accessible to a plurality of users who have digital photographs, wherein the digital photographs are comprised of data files in a suitable format;

receiving digital photographs from the users over the network;

storing the digital photographs in the data repository;

when storing each digital photograph in the data repository, associating each digital photograph with data that indicate a physical location, wherein data received from

a user indicating the physical location associated with a digital photograph is transformed by an acceptance application associated with the data repository into an alternative format;

      providing a search function available to the users over the network that enables users to search by physical location for digital photographs stored by other users;

      allowing users to select digital photographs stored by other users; and

      transmitting copies of the selected digital photographs to the users who selected them over the network.

      30.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

      for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicates an orientation.

      31.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

      for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data restrict which other users may obtain a copy of the digital photograph.

      32.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

      for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicate an owner of the digital photograph.

      33.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

      for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicate a date on which the digital photograph was taken.

34. (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicate a date on which the digital photograph was deposited in the data repository.

35. (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data provide a description of the digital photograph.

36. (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data include a focal length used for the digital photograph.

37. (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

for some of the selected digital photographs transmitted to users, charging the users a fee for the selected digital photographs.

38. (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

storing links to web cams in the data repository;

when storing each link to a web cam in the data repository, associating each link to a web cam with data that indicate a physical location, wherein the physical location indicates where the web cam associated with the link is located;

providing a search function available to the users over the network that enables users to search by physical location for web cam links stored by other users;

allowing users to select links to web cams of other users; and

transmitting the respective selected web cam links to the users who selected them over the network.

39.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 wherein the physical location associated with the digital photograph indicates a vantage point of the digital photograph.

40.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 wherein the physical location associated with the digital photograph indicates the location of an object in the digital photograph.

41.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 wherein the data that indicate a physical location is obtained, for at least some of the digital photographs, from positioning equipment associated with the camera that took the photograph.

42.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 wherein the data that indicate a physical location is obtained from the user from whom the associated digital photograph was received.

43.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:
        when receiving digital photographs from users, requesting each user to indicate the physical location to be associated with the digital photograph.

44.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:
        making the data repository accessible to a map developer; and
        allowing the map developer to update maps using the digital photographs stored in the data repository.

45.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

for some of the copies of selected digital photographs transmitted to users over the network, providing the users with route guidance for traveling to the respective locations shown in the digital photographs.

46.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs received from users, allowing the users to associate a plurality of digital photographs as a related group.

47.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 wherein the search function allows a user to specify a physical location by distance from a reference point.

48.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 wherein the search function allows a user to specify a physical location by a bounding area.

49.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 further comprising:

establishing groups of users, wherein each group comprises a subset of all users; and

restricting exchange of digital photographs stored in the data repository by members of a group to only members of the group.

50.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 wherein the search function supports free text searches.

51.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 29 wherein the data repository automatically recognizes potential placenames when users enter text to be associated with digital photographs being stored.

52.   (previously presented)   A method of storing photographs comprising:

providing a data repository on a network accessible to a plurality of users who have digital photographs, wherein the digital photographs are comprised of data files in a suitable format;

receiving digital photographs and locations to be associated therewith from the users over the network;

geocoding the locations;

storing the digital photographs and the associated geocoded locations in the data repository;

providing a search function available to the users over the network that enables users to search by physical location for digital photographs stored by other users;

allowing users to select digital photographs stored by other users; and

transmitting copies of the selected digital photographs to the users who selected them over the network.

53.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicates an orientation.

54.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data restrict which other users may obtain a copy of the digital photograph.

55.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicate an owner of the digital photograph.

56.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicate a date on which the digital photograph was taken.

57.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data indicate a date on which the digital photograph was deposited in the data repository.

58.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data provide a description of the digital photograph.

59.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs stored in the data repository, associating additional data with the digital photograph and storing the additional data in the data repository, wherein the additional data include a focal length used for the digital photograph.

60.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the selected digital photographs transmitted to users, charging the

users a fee for the selected digital photographs.

61.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

storing links to web cams in the data repository;

when storing each link to a web cam in the data repository, associating each link

to a web cam with data that indicate a physical location, wherein the physical location

indicates where the web cam associated with the link is located;

providing a search function available to the users over the network that enables

users to search by physical location for web cam links stored by other users;

allowing users to select links to web cams of other users; and

transmitting the respective selected web cam links to the users who selected them

over the network.

62.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 wherein the

physical location associated with the digital photograph indicates a vantage point of the

digital photograph.

63.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 wherein the

physical location associated with the digital photograph indicates the location of an object

in the digital photograph.

64.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 wherein the data

that indicate a physical location is obtained, for at least some of the digital photographs,

from positioning equipment associated with the camera that took the photograph.

65.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 wherein the data

that indicate a physical location is obtained from the user from whom the associated

digital photograph was received.

66.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

when receiving digital photographs from users, requesting each user to indicate the physical location to be associated with the digital photograph.

67.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

making the data repository accessible to a map developer; and

allowing the map developer to update maps using the digital photographs stored in the data repository.

68.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the copies of selected digital photographs transmitted to users over the network, providing the users with route guidance for traveling to the respective locations shown in the digital photographs.

69.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

for some of the digital photographs received from users, allowing the users to associate a plurality of digital photographs as a related group.

70.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 wherein the search function allows a user to specify a physical location by distance from a reference point.

71.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 wherein the search function allows a user to specify a physical location by a bounding area.

72.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

establishing groups of users, wherein each group comprises a subset of all users; and

restricting exchange of digital photographs stored in the data repository by members of a group to only members of the group.

73.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 wherein the search function supports free text searches.

74.   (previously presented)   The method of Claim 52 wherein the data repository automatically recognizes potential placenames when users enter text to be associated with digital photographs being stored.

75.   (new)   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
geocoding the specified street address.

76.   (new)   The method of Claim 28 wherein the subject matter category includes natural sites.

77.   (new)   The method of Claim 28 wherein the subject matter category includes scenic sites.

78.   (new)   The method of Claim 28 wherein the subject matter category includes historical sites.